

THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHISM

voting, but raised no objection. According to Pedro de Luna, they stated that they did this because of the danger that would otherwise involve their kindred and their goods, but he himself believed that they were discontented with the result.¹ On the following day, Robert of Geneva was proclaimed Pope as Clement VII, and, on October 31, he was solemnly crowned in the cathedral of Fondi.

The new Supreme Pontiff was proclaimed at Avignon on October 13 ; but the King of France still delayed taking the final step, until November 16, when, being so advised by a council assembled at Vincennes, he at length declared that he recognized Clement VII as lawful Pope.

But he had been anticipated throughout by his brother. Louis of Anjou, always dreaming of emulating the great Charles of his house who had conquered Naples, listened to the first appeal of the Sacred College, brought to him by Jean de Bar. He lent large sums of money to the cardinals, declared that the Count of Fondi was the anchor that Christ had provided for the salvation of the bark of Peter, acclaimed the election of Clement as the elevation of a personal friend,² and laid his sword and power at his feet—on the understanding, as was soon shown, that a very substantial reward should be his.

Queen Giovanna had already sent the Archbishop of Cosenza to congratulate Clement on his election, and an illustrious embassy of the noblest in her kingdom to assist at the coronation. It was not, however, until November 20 (four days after the King of France) that she made her solemn declaration in his favour. At the same time, she ordered the arrest of all Urbanist emissaries, and paid to Clement the 64,000 florins that she owed the Pope as her tribute to the Holy See.⁸ The rest of Italy, with the exception of Savoy, Piedmont, and Monferrato, adhered to Urban, and Coluccio Salutati could freely, in the name of the Republic of Florence, pour forth the same torrents of fiery rhetoric upon the Clementine cardinals as he had previously employed against

¹ Gayet, doc. 31 ; Sorbelli, p. 268.

^s See Valois, I. pp. 151 «., 157 0.

^B *Ibid.*, p. 160.